

CD 2007--25



Thursday, March 8, 2007
12:10 pm, Walter Hall

University of Toronto Faculty of Music
Thursdays at Noon
presents



Teng Li, viola
Lydia Wong, piano

Romance, Op.85

Max Bruch

Sonata for Viola Solo, Op. 25 No. 1

Paul Hindemith

Breit Viertel

Sehr frisch und straff (Viertel)

Sehr langsam

Rasendes Zeitmass. Wild. Tonschönheit ist Nebensache

Langsam, aber mit viel Ausdruck

Sonata in F minor, Op. 120

Johannes Brahms

Allegro appassionato

Andante un poco Adagio

Allegretto grazioso

Vivace



Next on Thursdays at Noon

VIOLA DAY

U of T Viola Ensemble performs with guest artists, led by Kathy Rapoport
March 22, 2007

Biographies

Principal violist of the Toronto Symphony, **Teng Li** joined the roster of Astral Artistic Services as a winner of its 2003 National Auditions. Astral presented her Philadelphia recital debut and featured her on its "Rising Stars" series at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. She also recently appeared under Astral's auspices with other Astral artists in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, and gave concerto performances with both the Toronto Symphony and the Canadian Sinfonietta.

Ms. Li is the recipient of numerous awards, including First Prize at both the Johansen International and the Holland-America Music Society competitions, and Second Prize at the Primrose International Viola and Irving M. Klein International String competitions. She recently gave her Toronto recital debut at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Glenn Gould Studio, a performance that was also broadcast on the CBC. Chicago's WFMT Radio also broadcast her performance on Chicago's Dame Myra Hess concert series, on its "Live from Studio 1" program. She has appeared with the National Chamber Orchestra and the Santa Rosa Symphony, and was presented in recital for the French Embassy in Beijing.

An accomplished chamber musician, Ms. Li is a member of Chamber Music Society Two of Lincoln Center, and has been a participant at the Marlboro Music Festival, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and the Music from Angel Fire festival. She recently performed at Germany's Moritzburg Chamber Music Festival, and appeared in chamber music performances at New York's 92nd Street Y (with the Guarneri Quartet) and Toronto's Glenn Gould Studio. She also recently played in the orchestra for the Shanghai Opera and is a member of Trio Morisot (with Astral flutist Jasmine Choi and Astral harpist Bridget Kibbey).

Ms. Li began playing the violin in her native China when she was five years old. At twelve she transferred her attention to the viola. She entered the Central Conservatory in Beijing in 1992, and by the age of sixteen was accepted to study at the Curtis Institute of Music, where she graduated in 2005. In the fall of 2006 Ms. Li joins the music faculty at the University of Toronto.

One of Canada's most sought after collaborative pianists, acclaimed for her "vivacious playing" (Daily Telegraph) and "sparkling clarity" (The Strad), **Lydia Wong** appears regularly with the world's pre-eminent performers. Venues across the globe from Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City to London's Wigmore Hall have featured her expertise in partnership with such artists as Lorand Fenyves, Patrick Gallois, Nobuko Imai, Arto Noras, Erika Raum, Shauna Rolston and Scott St. John.

Following her successful Banff Centre collaboration with Krzysztof Penderecki on the North American premiere of his Sextet, Ms. Wong has enjoyed a particular association with the composer. She was invited to perform the Sextet and other works at the Festival Casals in Puerto Rico and at the "Making Music" series in New York City by Carnegie Hall. In 2003, with violinist Erika Raum, she gave the North American premiere of Penderecki's Violin Sonata No.2 in Toronto; she also performed at Maestro Penderecki's 70th birthday celebration in Warsaw, Poland and served as a member of the jury for the Seventh Annual International Contemporary Chamber Music Competition in Krakow, Poland. Ms. Wong and Erika Raum will be recording all of Maestro Penderecki's work for violin and piano with a grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

Active in new music, Ms. Wong performed as soloist with the Esprit Orchestra in ...quasi una fantasia... by Gyorgy Kurtag. CentreDiscs has released her recording of Alexina Louie's Piano Quintet with the Accordes String Quartet and will be following this with a disc of the music of Melissa Hui. Volume one of French music for flute and piano recorded with Patrick Gallois was issued on the Naxos label this March. She can also be heard on Marquis Classics and Phoenix Records and has performed for networks in North America, Africa and Europe besides broadcasting regularly for the CBC.

A graduate of the University of Toronto and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Ms. Wong currently teaches at the University of Toronto and is a faculty member of the summer music program at the Banff Centre for the Arts.